UNITED
NATIONS

TD

United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development

Distr.
LIMITED

TD/B/EX(6)/L.1
11 July 1994

Original: ENGLISH

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
~~Sixth executive session~~
Geneva, 12 September 1994
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKING PARTY ON THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN AND THE PROGRAMME BUDGET

Draft resolution */

Terms of reference of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget

The Trade and Development Board,

Desirous of enhancing the role of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget with a view to ensuring that the overall work of UNCTAD is in conformity with the priorities set by intergovernmental decisions and that UNCTAD's mandate is carried out with maximum efficiency,

Recalling the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as Regulations and Rules), and in particular the "Legal opinion by the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, the Legal Counsel" (TD/B/WP/INF.27 of 24 June 1993),

---

*/ The text of this draft resolution was approved by the informal consultations on the role and function of the Working Party on 10 May 1994.

1. Reaffirms the role of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget as a subsidiary organ of the Trade and Development Board entrusted with the responsibility of reviewing, with respect to UNCTAD, questions arising from the work programmes, including the medium-term plan, the programme budget, and the programme evaluation; of reviewing the technical cooperation activities and their financing; and of undertaking studies related to financial and administrative questions as may be assigned to it by the Board;

2. Decides that:

(a) The Working Party:

(i) Shall, in accordance with Regulation 3.12 of the Regulations and Rules, review the UNCTAD programmes of the proposed medium-term plan before they are submitted to the United Nations Headquarters for central review;

(ii) Shall review the draft UNCTAD programme budget, shall compare it with the legislative authority for the proposed activities, and shall convey its views on the consistency between the agreed priorities of UNCTAD and the levels and allocation of the budgetary and staffing resources of UNCTAD in the context of the resources foreseen for the United Nations as a whole, before its submission to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and in advance of its consideration by the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) in order for these bodies to be in a position to take into account the recommendations, as appropriate, of the Working Party;

(iii) Shall, at the request of the Trade and Development Board, examine the consistency of priorities in the UNCTAD sections of the draft medium-term plan and the draft programme budget;

(iv) Shall review the technical cooperation activities and

their financing as well as the programme evaluation of UNCTAD;

(b) The Secretary-General of UNCTAD be requested:

(i) To ensure the timely preparation and circulation of documentation in all working languages for the Working Party, which shall include financial information;

(ii) To take into consideration the recommendations made by the Working Party in finalizing the submission of the proposed programme budget to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

(iii) To provide the Working Party with the UNCTAD section of the proposed programme budget of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as submitted to the CPC and ACABQ, with a cover note stating the changes made in the UNCTAD sections of the proposed programme budget in relation to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD's submission to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

(c) The Working Party shall submit reports on, and recommendations arising from, its work to the Trade and Development Board for appropriate action. The action taken by the Board on such reports and recommendations shall be brought to the attention, as appropriate, of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the central review bodies;

(d) The Working Party shall consist of twenty-five core members elected by the Trade and Development Board for a term of one year on the basis of equitable geographical distribution. Other States members of UNCTAD are entitled to participate;

(e) The frequency and the duration of sessions of the Working Party shall be decided by the Trade and Development Board in the light

of the Calendar of Meetings and Conferences of the United Nations, taking into account the sessions of the General Assembly (Fifth Committee), CPC and ACABQ.